

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND GUIDE TO THE PROVINCIAL CONCLAVE OF WEST YORKSHIRE 2023

Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and Brethren all. I have the honour to present my report at the end of my term of Office as the Provincial Grand Guide for the Province of West Yorkshire.

Firstly, I'd like to thank the Provincial Grand Visitors of the year, Wy Bro's Jack Acton, Peter Firth, Tobias Reece and Paul Levey. A year which began brightly after the restrictions placed upon us by Covid -19 had ended but became a little more problematic following my fall and stay in hospital. The Visiting Deacons have travelled to all the Conclaves holding a meeting and have carried out their duties with diligence and thankfully with their ever-present good humour. My special thanks and congratulations also go to Jack Acton and Peter Firth who have completed their two years and I wish them well in their new roles as on a number of occasions they have gone the extra mile.

Although an occasional meeting had to be rearranged, there were very few that had to be abandoned which was very pleasing. I am pleased to report that meetings are now back to normality.

For the meetings that have taken place, I am pleased to report that the average attendance has increased and is now closer to 21 better than the 17 previously. Most are also staying to the Festive board showing the fellowship of the order is in good spirits. Average number of visitors was 5, although it is noticeable that visitors are more local to the Conclave than travelling great distances. This can be seen when, on a couple of occasions 2 Conclaves have met on the same evening and each has had 4 or 5 visitors. Visitors remain an integral part of conclave meetings; it is rare a visitor doesn't step in to make up part of the Conclave Officers. Of the visitors most were past or current supreme rulers so the need arises for Brothers to be escorted on visits. Several conclaves have more past supreme rulers than brethren although there have been 14 inductions this year.

Average score for ritual is 3.5 for Supreme Rulers; however, they vary greatly with scores of 5 and 2. I'm sure this forthcoming year will see the provinces oratory score climb back up even higher. The score for those taking part in the ceremony is higher however at 4, as there are some excellent ritualist's in our Conclaves. Generally the quality of the ritual has improved this year.

Visiting deacon reports are often added to by the secretaries especially when a Visiting Deacon is absent. It is not always clear if the secretary has contacted the Brethren or received a report from the Visiting Deacon. This is an area we can still improve upon as is very important in maintaining our membership and friendship.

Total Membership stood at 266, an increase from last year. I also have to report that we had 3 deaths and these Brethren will be missed by their Conclaves and by us all. So the future is looking much brighter.

Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, your Province is still in good heart. The confidence from both you and your Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, V.Wy. Bro. Alan P.K. Webster continues to inspire the full support of your brethren and we look forward to seeing the province enjoy yet another successful year.

Provincial Grand Guide. February 2023